

COUNTRY

East Germany

REPORT NO.

25X1

TOPIC Military Information from Jena

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 20 August to 12 September 1953

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 28 October 1953

REFERENCES 2

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Between 7 and 9 September 1953, the barracks installation in Jena-Loebstedt was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery and motor transport insignia. Between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. on 7 September, about 80 troops were lined up in front of a vehicle shed, while 2 teams of soldiers engaged in a game of soccer in the barracks yard. About

25X1 60 soldiers were watching the game. Trucks 25X1

each occupied by 30 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the installation for the Roedigen airfield. 25X1 they were to relieve the guard personnel there. At 6 p.m. on 8 September, about 30 soldiers, each carrying a pot, were lined up in front of a quartering building, while about 120 troops were near the garages and 30 soldiers engaged in physical training. On 9 September, about 120 troops had fallen in for a roll call and 30 soldiers engaged in physical training. Six tanks, including 2 canvas-covered ones, were in front of a vehicle shed. Four of the tanks were being cleaned.

2. Between 3 and 12 September, the barracks installation in Jena-Loebstedt was occupied by at least 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets; and the barracks installation in Zwaetzen was occupied by a guard detail. Trucks

25X1 25X1 were seen en route to the barracks installation in Loebstedt. Beginning 22 August, Soviet officers and EM were permitted to visit German restaurants.

3. In August, the barracks installation in Loebstedt was surrounded by a board fence, thus rendering observation more difficult. Painting work was being performed in the installation. Prior to 30 August, the installation was occupied by an estimated 700 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery and tank insignia. At 10:30 a.m. on 20 August, three groups, each of 43 young soldiers, left the installation toward the firing range. On 25 August, 3 officers and 33 EM carrying full field pack and equipped with 3 about 80-mm mortars left the installation toward the airfield. Beginning 20 August, the troops were permitted to leave the installation. 25X1

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4. Prior to 30 August, the barracks installation in Zwaetzen was occupied by a small guard detail. About 500 troops from the units permanently stationed in the installation were quartered in tents in the training area between Borstendorf and Dornburg. Trucks [redacted] were seen en route from the installation to the tent camp. The Forst Kaserne was occupied by about 300 troops, mostly engaged in fatigue duty, during the period under review. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] The Polizei Kaserne was occupied by a rear detail including the military band of about 150 men.

25X1 [redacted] Comment. The rear details of the 20th Gds Mecz Div stationed in the various installations were larger than those observed after the departure of the troops for summer training in April 1953. The bulk of the division was still stationed in Camp Crawinkel near Ohrdruf during the period under review.

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